DEVOTED TO AGRICULTURE AND ALL ITS VARIOUS KINDRED ARTS AND SCIENCES.

Honor waits, o'er all the earth, The art that calls her harvests forth.—BRYANT.

VOL. I. SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 1849. NO. 20.

S. W. COLE, EDITOR. QUINCY HALL, BOSTON. J. NOURSE, PROPRIETOR.

KEEP THE PREMISES CLEAN.

EVERY cultivator should keep his premises as clean as possible, for the important purposes of saving manure and promoting health. Some discerning persons remark that in the hot summer, while vegetation is in a flourishing condition, it is more healthy in the country than in the city, but the reverse is the case in September and October, as at this season many vegetable productions have come to maturity and are decaying, filling the air with noxious gases and odors; hence arise fevers, dysentery, and other complaints, which are more common in the country early in fall. We give this view of the subject, which some have presented, and we will make a few remarks on subjects that claim the particular attention of every cultivator, whether this view be correct or not.

Keep the premises, particularly around the dwelling, perfectly free from every substance that will taint the air. Every decaying vegetable or animal substance should be removed a good distance, and then covered in earth, for the purpose of manure.

The pig-pen, though at a respectable distance, should be supplied with loam to absorb all liquid matter. All manure in the barn-yard should be covered with loam, sand, or mud, to save it from waste, and to keep the air pure, as, in the changes so common to the wind, the air is liable to be wafted from the barn to the house.

Cellars should be made as clean as possible, particularly as they communicate directly with the dwelling above, and any foul air produced in them is very liable to pass into the house. All vegetables in the cellar that are tending to decay should be removed immediately. It is best to ventilate cellars thoroughly by opening doors and windows, and to keep the door open as little as possible that communicates with the rooms.

Ground plaster, and freshly-burnt charcoal, set in vessels or strewed around in cellars, or other places where foul air exists, or is liable to be produced, has a very healthful effect, by absorbing gases.

Necessaries often produce a foul atmosphere around them; and as the dwelling is near, the offensive air is often wafted to it, and even when not perceptible, it is often operating injuriously. Some prepare these conveniences and cover with loam or other substance all night soil, so as to do away entirely with all unpleasant and unwholesome effects. When this is not the case, charcoal, plaster, chloride of lime, or other disinfectants, should be thrown into the vault, to absorb all noxious odors.

Water from the sink should be absorbed in loam, &c., for manure, instead of rising in foul gases, and being blown into the house. There are some cases of malignant and fatal disorders going through a family, while all the rest of the neighborhood are in good health. This is often owing to some local cause, some foul puddle, pool, or stagnant pond, near the dwelling, or a general negligence as to keeping the premises clean.

Decaying weeds, grass, potatoes affected with the rot, potato tops, pumpkin and other vines, and various productions, are undergoing decomposition in the fall; and in the aggregate the amount is large, and filling the air with pestilential gases. Farmers may do much good to themselves and the community by burying all such substances, and converting them into manure. Make them into a compost heap, well covered with loam, to absorb the gases.

FRUIT GARDEN OF A. LACKEY, JR., MARBLEHEAD.

On a recent visit to this garden, we were highly delighted with the success of Mr. Lackey, and the result of numerous experiments which he has made. His attention has been mostly directed to the cultivation of plums and pears; and as it was the season of plums, we paid particular attention to this subject.

Mr. Lackey has collected numerous kinds, foreign and domestic, and is subjecting them to fair experiment. After thorough trial, he has rejected some that are not worthy of cultivation; and yet he has more than a hundred kinds on trial, some of which are new and very promising. The result of such operations are highly useful to the community, and Mr. Lackey deserves high commendation for his zeal in a useful cause. He has entered into this business with so much ardor, that, though young,

he already shows a great degree of intelligence and discrimination, which would do honor to a veteran pomologist.

He has preserved the even tenor of his way in retirement and silence, but he should be known, and his information, which he freely communicates, should become public property for the general good, and he himself ranked with the distinguished cultivators of fruit. We intend no flattery or exaggeration, as we deal in facts.

We are under obligations to Mr. Lackey for several fine specimens of plums, which we shall occasionally figure and describe; and he has promised to furnish us with results of experiments and his opinions after the season is past.

Mr. Lackey has about twenty-five bushels of plums this season, on about one fourth of an acre, (a small part of his trees being in a bearing state,) which is probably a larger crop than any other person has raised in this section, on the same extent.

His land is a moist, heavy soil; it was too cold and wet for tillage, until a large quantity of sea-sand was hauled on to it. His trees are vigorous and productive, and they are remarkably healthy, and his plums have generally been free from the curculio. He heads in his plum-trees, as the peach, by cutting off, in the spring, about two thirds of the previous year's growth. He considers heading is as necessary to the plum as to the peach, if not more so.

He has raised about six hundred plum seedlings, from the Green Gage, which he is putting on trial with a view of procuring new and superior kinds; and we have no doubt that from so extensive an experiment, some valuable new varieties will be produced. We need a plum of the high quality of the Green Gage, that is larger and a better grower.

CURCULIO.

Mr. L. Burt, of Walpole, N. H., informs us that the curculio used to sting his plums very much until he adopted the following practice. He fixed spouts from his house to his trees, and the soap-suds and wash from the kitchen were directed around the trunks and roots of the trees; and while he pursued the practice, his plums were untouched by the curculio; but when this was neglected, his plums were destroyed. Other persons had tried this preventive with the same success.

The curculio will not sting plums when there is not a suitable place for its young to burrow in the ground below; hence the advantage of paving under trees; but this is an expensive preventive. The wash from the house is not only good to prevent the operations of the curculio, but it forms a valuable manure for the trees, and supplies moisture, a good share of which is essential in the successful cultivation of plums.

SMUT IN WHEAT AND OATS.

You will please to indulge me until I can communicate some facts to your farmer friends — facts which, in all probability, the most of them are not aware of. The subject to which I allude, is smut in wheat and oats. It has become a universal rule, almost, for farmers to reap their wheat and oats before ripe. Wheat, for the reason, most of them say, because it will make better flour, and oats for the purpose of making better seed, both of which is a mistake, in my opinion; but I shall not trouble you with any arguments of mine on the subject at present: my object in this communication is to show some cause for smut. The true cause of smut in wheat and oats, in my opinion, is because the seed that is sown was not ripe when cut. By the seed not being fully ripe when cut, the proper qualities to produce good wheat or oats again are not properly matured in it. Although at the same time that there is not sufficient substance in the seed to produce the wheat or oats, there is sufficient substance in it to bring forth the blade or stock; but there is a material difference between the substance that produces the stock, and the substance that produces the grain. What more fully convinces me that the above is the true cause of smut, is, that I bought some seed oats from one of my neighbors this spring, and sowed them; when they headed, there was at least one third of them black heads. I was surprised and sorry, and made some inquiry of my neighbor what was the cause of so many black heads. He told me, the reason of it must be by a mistake that was made when he threshed his seed oats. He cut about one half of his crop quite green, the other half quite ripe, for seed, stacked them side by side, and when he sent his son after them, he took the wrong stack. Another of my neighbors sowed some old seed and some new; the old seed was ripe when cut, the new was green; he sowed them in the same field, the same day. There were no black heads in the old oats sown, but the new seed were about one third black heads; so much difference in them that you could tell them to the very land sown, and almost to the furrow. Now, if this is the true cause of smut in oats, it undoubtedly must be the true cause of smut in wheat. If it is not, I would like very much if some of your subscribers would inform me what is the true cause. F. S. H.

Gaston Co., N. C., 1849.

— *Philadelphia Dollar Newspaper.*

Remarks by Editor N. E. Farmer. — The subject suggested by the above article, is worthy of consideration and experiment, and for this purpose we present it. The case named in which new and old seed were sowed side by side, and with different results, is not conclusive evidence of the superiority of late cut seed, as the writer infers; for its excellence might depend on its age, which might destroy the cause of smut existing in the seed. We hope that experiments will be made to give a fair illustration of this subject.

PORTABLE RAILWAY.

Dr. Spurgin favored the council with the inspection of a model for a rotary railway, on the principle of the simple roller, for use in farms, docks, warehouses, and other places where heavy weights were to be conveyed short distances without the aid of horse power; as manure from yards, corn from stack-yards, timber from woods, turnips or mangel-wurtzel from flat, heavy land. He considered that this mode of conveying would prove fully efficient in its action; combining great simplicity with ready adaptability for the purposes required, at a cost not exceeding ten pounds. — *English Paper.*

THE CRANBERRY RAKE.

This is a small, neat, simple implement, that costs but a trifle; yet it is important as a labor-saving tool. One man, with this cheap contrivance, will do as much as several men without it. In some other departments of labor, hundreds of dollars are expended to accomplish so desirable a purpose in saving time and despatching business.

We have various accounts of how much a man will do in gathering cranberries with a rake, and some great stories, which nobody believes, excepting those who do great things themselves. A good hand, with a good chance, will gather about twenty bushels per day, with a rake. Who, then, would gather this fruit by the tedious process of hand-picking, when a valuable implement can be had that will save several times its cost every day it is used?

POTATO ROT.

We have various accounts as to this disease. Some farmers say that it is very destructive, others that it is very light, or has not made its appearance at all. Most persons of whom we have made inquiries have seen but very little of it; and it probably exists only to a small extent. We have examined several kinds of our own, both on dry and wet land, and we have seen no rot in them, not even in the Stockbridge, which is far more liable to the disease than any other variety. Yet, as we have dug only a few for our own use, we have not yet had a good opportunity to judge.

In most cases, Chenangoes and other tender kinds that have been dug on rather wet land, and stood in market over night, are considerably affected. Most of the potatoes in this state and farther south, in New Engla[illegible], were planted early, and they became ripe, and vegetation generally ceased before there was any weather that tended to promote the rot; therefore they will be less liable to be affected than those that were growing after the rot appeared.

We have not supposed that the rot had disappeared, or was passing away, as has been the opinion of many, as it did not appear as early as usual this season, but that the malady would prevail again, whenever there was suitable weather to promote it. In the last of August, and early in this month, there were a few days of warm weather, and alternations of showers and sunshine, and hot days and cool nights, which promoted the rot. So we have had but very little weather during the season, that tended much to produce the rot. The weather is now, (September 10th,) and for several days past has been, cool and bright, and will probably check the disease.

We would not have our readers infer, from what we have said, that we regard the state of the weather the main cause of rot, as we consider the principal cause atmospheric, and the weather a secondary or predisposing cause, the same as stimulating manures, wet land, a tender kind, &c.

IDENTITY OF GLANDERS IN MAN AND HORSE.

When the Eleventh Hussars were last quartered in Dublin, our surgeon, in conjunction with some of the most eminent medical men in that city, attended a policeman at one of the hospitals, who died of the glanders. The unfortunate man, it is supposed, took the infection from drinking out of a bucket which had been used by a glandered horse. Three days before this man died, a horse was purchased, and was inoculated with the matter from the man. The horse showed all the symptoms of acute glanders, of which he died. The man also died. Drawings were taken by an eminent artist of portions of the lungs of the man, and also of those of the horse, which showed the most perfect similarity in the tubercles. Drawings were also made of the Schneiderian membrane of the man and the horse, showing the identity of the ulceration. The man was also shown as he lay dead, with the appearance of the pustules over the body; these pustules appeared to have a very marked difference from those in other diseases, having a white areole instead of a red.

This case excited great attention at the time, and our surgeon was requested to attend at Chatham with the drawings, which were carefully copied and deposited in the Medical Museum. — *The London Veterinarian.*

For the New England Farmer.

BOMMER MANURE.

Mr. Editor: In the Farmer of August 18th, under the caption of "Profit of Patent Rights, &c., Papers," alias Bommer Manure, your correspondent R. M. wishes "to know all that can be brought against it," from "actual experience," or, by "weighing facts honestly." We infer from this last sentence that the idea which the author wished to convey was simply this, viz., that as truth on all occasions should be spoken, he demands truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, which we propose to do on this "all-important" subject.

About Bommer's method for making manure much has been written both in regard to its value and the validity of the patent right, and we presume much more will be written before it is set at nought. The subject, we believe, to which this correspondent wishes to "draw the attention of contributors" is the value of the manure and not the validity of the patent right. Having formerly given our opinion in the columns of a respectable journal on this method of composting manure, we again take up our pen, and shall endeavor to defend it; for, being a member of a company formed in this place little more than a year ago, who accordingly purchased the patent right for the town for one half of the amount mentioned by your correspondent, we do not discard it. Although we cannot speak from "actual experience," having not fairly tested the experiment, yet, as far as observation is concerned, we are able to affirm that a member, soon after purchasing the right, made a heap of what is called Bommer Manure, on which he last season raised a good crop of corn.

We believe this kind of manure is profitable to the farmer notwithstanding all that has been "brought against it," because the ingredients of which it is composed are of a fertilizing nature; secondly, because much of the filth and drainings from cow-yards, and other resources on farms, can be profitably made into manure by this method, without which the farmer would receive but little benefit; thirdly, because farmers living a great distance from places where manure may be purchased, and in hilly sections of towns, can make their own manure, and thus save the expense of buying and teaming.

We hope farmers will "look at this subject without partiality," for we believe it to be of interest, and from current reports we should judge that no farmer need to be without this method of making compost manure, for it is thought by some to be quite generally known. As we have not seen any thing in an agricultural paper that would give the intelligent farmer a full and clear conception of the method according to Bommer's record, we are not assured of the cheapness and ready access of the mode.

N. B. We believe the reason why some of those who have become acquainted with Bommer's method meet with disappointments or "failures," as it is called, arises from this one thing, viz., they do not carry out the principle strictly in accordance with the method. J.

Woburn, *Aug.* 1849.

For the New England Farmer.

COTTAGE ARCHITECTURE—LANDSCAPE GARDENING.

Mr. Editor: Perhaps there is nothing in which more taste can be displayed than in cottage architecture and landscape gardening. And yet, how little we see in the country, compared with the number who have the means to gratify this kind of taste, did they really possess it! Men of property will thoughtlessly build a plain, square house in the dust of the road-side, with only a rod of ground in front, covered with weeds and mullein, and congratulate themselves on the pleasant site, and its proximity to "passing." Such men have no taste, and not a few of them deride it. They claim to be utilitarians, republican in their notions; and while they have no expenses to incur for "other people's eyes," they seem to be insensible to the fact that a degree of neatness and taste would soon become a new source of pleasure to themselves, and much enhance the value of their property.

The objects of taste in rural affairs are generally things permanent; not transitory, passing away in a month or a year, but objects which will endure for many generations with most of their beauties, to the praise of him who unites refinement with utility. Hence its importance.

I know that practical farmers are inclined to turn a deaf ear to such suggestions; but I do not perceive that a house handsomely located, neatly built, and a garden neatly laid out and planted, would be any more annual expense, than one built or laid out without tasteful considerations. Besides, who has not felt, that a beautiful object is an incentive to and lightens labor, and will so engage the attention, that moments otherwise uselessly spent will now be usefully employed? How can a person labor for that which he does not cherish? or toil in a garden, with satisfaction, that has been planned in defiance of the rules of good order and taste? Let the farmer's or gardener's (as well as every other person's) motto be "Perpetual Improvement."

Respecting cottage architecture, a number of beautiful plans have of late years been presented by architects, and adopted by builders. Look at Roxbury, which is unrivalled for its beautiful new cottages — erected upon rocks in the midst of brambles — and one will be astonished at what taste and head-work have accomplished, assisted by the hands. Here are found every variety and color which ingenuity can invent.

Not many years ago, the most open sites were chosen for building; but now the most sequestered and woody, if not too far from a principal road. The choice of such situations gives a greater opportunity for a display of taste, as handsome shady forest-trees are suffered to remain, while the ground is interlaced with walks and shaded with cultivated flowers and shrubbery — thus preserving the beauty of nature's wildness and the products of floriculture. And it is remarkable how a road cut through a piece of woods, with here and there a cluster of flowers, will redeem the wildness of nature.

Different situations of cottages seem to require, I think, different forms of architecture. The English style, with bay or semi-octagon windows, strikes us as best fitted for a level piece of ground near the street, and will bear more shelter than most any other kind. But a prominent site, at some distance from the street, would seem to require a more stately architecture, embracing lofty turrets, spacious and elevated piazzas, &c. Where streets pass a house on different sides, piazzas looking towards them are quite essential.

The color of a cottage is next in importance to its architecture. As a general rule, I think dark colors (chocolate, for instance) are not in good taste, as in most seasons of the year they are gloomy, and not calculated long to please. For stables and out-houses they are more tolerable. There is enough in the country when the trees are not in foliage, to excite melancholy, without sombre houses or dead-pole fences and summer-houses. Every thing in and around a cottage ought to look gay and cheerful; and hence brilliant colors for buildings, such as white, straw, light pink, &c., are far more preferable, to my taste, as they never encourage a feeling of

sadness, but appear in cheerful contrast with the surrounding landscape.

I am now setting out with trees an acre of ground, finely situated for a garden and house lot, with an inclination to the north-west, with pretty level rear, and am desirous of placing these trees to the best advantage, respecting walks, general appearance, &c. I have commenced planting trees entirely around the lot, about ten feet from the boundary, with a view of laying out a walk between the fence and trees, and also crossing the garden at right angles at pleasure. I shall keep the apple-trees mostly back, the cherries front, (on the road,) peaches, plums, and pears near the house, and interspersed otherwise as judgment shall dictate. As the front part of the lot rises from seven to ten feet in the distance of thirty or forty back, a substantial wall on the front line would be better economy, I think, than a fence, to secure the work. I would inquire, Mr. Editor, if earth can be banked up against it, or placed on the top of it, sufficient to grow a buckthorn or prim hedge. Which of the two is preferable?

Permit me also to inquire if it would be a good plan to plant grape-vines at the trunk of oak-trees fifteen or twenty feet high, that are to remain. If the Isabella grape would be too much shaded, would not the *wild* succeed, and could it be improved in quality? Any suggestions on the above, which your time and experience would permit you to make, will be happily received. L.

Editorial Remarks. — If the land rises steep from the wall, it might, of course, be very convenient to make a bank as high as the wall; but if the ascent from the wall is moderate, it would require considerable labor to make a bank as high as the wall, and have it level or nearly so; and if the bank be not nearly level, or made rather wide, it will be dry and unsuitable for growing a hedge. We would suggest filling up against the wall to about one third or one half its height, and then the top of the wall will hide from sight the lower part of the hedge, which is less comely than the other parts.

Attention has but recently been given to the cultivation of the prim or privet for hedges: of course, we know but little about it yet. Buckthorn is very luxuriant in its growth, and forms an excellent hedge for ornament, or for a screen; but as a protection where there is no wall or fence, we should prefer the native thorn of the south, often called the *Washington* or *Newcastle* thorn. It is hardy and well adapted to this climate.

If grape-vines are planted with forest trees, and the land well cultivated, they will grow finely; but when the trees have attained a considerable size, they shade too much, and the soil around the trunks for some distance is filled with roots, and the grapes will have a poor chance. In such case, it would be better to plant the vines some six, eight, or twelve feet from the trees, on the south, if convenient, and then train them to the trees, which might be done under ground, if more convenient.

The Isabella grape is rather late for this climate, even in a favorable location; therefore it should not be exposed to the disadvantage of a connection with trees, especially those of rather a large size. Some native grapes would be better adapted to such a location. The Strawberry and Coon (American Fruit Book, p. 255) are of great vigor, and will run to the tops of forest trees: they are perfectly hardy, and they ripen their fruit the first of September.

For the New England Farmer.

DOMESTIC FOWLS.

Mr. Cole. Sir: I should like to see some statements in the Farmer respecting the best kinds of hens or domestic fowls, for a farmer to keep. I see the Ploughman has some articles on that subject. There appear to be new varieties. Whether they are better or more profitable than the old, I should like to know. It is mentioned in the Ploughman about a hen which laid forty eggs in succession, or in as many days. Now, I have a hen of good size, though not the largest kind, which has laid, as my folks say, ever since last February, without wanting to sit. Can any of the new kinds beat that?

Yours, &c., J. S.

Mansfield, *August* 24, 1849.

Editorial Remarks. — There are many varieties of domestic fowls: some excel in one property, others in another. It is impossible to find a breed that combines all the qualities desired. For instance, there is no variety that will lay constantly without sitting, when eggs only are wanted; and sit whenever the owner desires a brood of chickens.

The Poland Top Knots seldom sit, and are excellent for those who keep hens expressly for eggs. They are a beautiful fowl, and well adapted to the condition of those who keep them for ornament.

The Dorkings are among the most popular races in this country and in England. Their flesh and eggs are excellent, their deportment is commendable, and they are excellent mothers. This race is often disposed to sit, and some complain that they are inclined to brood before laying a nest full of eggs.

The Game breed is remarkably hardy, superior in flesh, and good layers; but they are so pugnacious that the young cocks often kill or disable each other.

The Guelderlands are a noble, quiet race, but rather tender, so that the chickens are hard to raise. We noticed this tenderness in hatching eggs by artificial heat. Many of these eggs produced chickens to the point of hatching, but none came out of the shell.

The Bucks County breed is remarkably hardy. On this account they are well adapted to early raising, as they will endure the cool weather of spring, which often destroys other kinds. And as they are very large, they appear, when about half grown, much like a common chicken two thirds grown; so that they are sold in market more to the advantage of the raiser than the consumer. This breed is very destructive to vegetation. An old protector will stand on a stout hill of potatoes, when disposed to make a display of his power, and it will be flying in every direction in half a minute. We hatched five sixths of the eggs of this breed by artificial means.

The Frizzled fowl has its feathers pointing forward, so that it cannot run amongst grain; and this is its peculiar advantage.

The Bantams are beautiful, and serve as pets for children; and they may run in gardens without injury.

The Bucks County, Malay, Cochin China, and various large India breeds, and other extremely large races, are, generally, of coarse flesh, and the eggs are of coarse texture and unsavory. A friend remarked that his neighbors complained that the eggs from the large India fowls, which he sold them, were of a dark color, coarse, and less palatable than others; and he requested us to take some eggs of the large fowls, and try them with others, and report our opinion. We cooked them with the eggs of Dorkings and common hens, and we found that the color was darker, the texture coarser, and the quality inferior to the other two kinds. The difference was great.

We know not what new kinds may be made, and we would not discourage the production of new varieties, as some may be produced under a judicious course of breeding, or incidentally, for ought that we know, that may combine many excellent properties. But in breeding from the coarse India fowls, and retaining their peculiar properties, we think no great improvement will be made.

Some of the native varieties of domestic fowls, like some native cattle, are superior to many of the foreign races; and by selecting some of the best from different flocks, in order to avoid breeding in and in, a cross of fine fowls may be produced.

We have alluded to only a few breeds, and made only a few remarks on them, not intending a full description, with a view to show the difficulty, or rather impossibility, of selecting a race that would be regarded as best for every body. We have made these remarks, presenting various subjects for consideration, with a view to call forth the opinions of our correspondents. The subject, though small in its details, is very large in the aggregate, as may be shown by statistics.

For the New England Farmer.

BARREN APPLE-TREES.

Mr. Editor. Dear sir: I have been looking in the New England Farmer for something to make barren apple-trees bear; but I have looked in vain. I can hear nothing in relation to that subject. I have a tree on my farm that is young and thrifty: the trunk, within a foot of the ground, is thirty-four inches in circumference: it blossoms full, but never bears. If you know or can hear of any remedy, please to insert it in your paper, and much oblige

Your friend,

JAMES MILLIKEN.

Charlestown, N. H., *August* 30, 1849.

Editorial Remarks. — To cure barrenness in fruit trees, change the soil. If the soil is clay, or a cold, muddy soil, remove a part around the roots, and put instead gravelly or sandy loam. If the soil is now too light and porous, change a part for a more compact soil. Apply several kinds of manure, such as ashes, lime, or old lime mortar, soap suds, sink water, plaster, soot, &c. Another aid to productiveness is moderate pruning, to expose the branches to air and sun. Clipping off a part of the present year's growth, in July, tends to the production of fruit buds. If a tree is not sufficiently vigorous, manure and cultivation will render it more fruitful.

After all that is done to render a tree productive, some kinds will bear but sparsely, as they are naturally poor bearers, and it is impossible to change the natural habits of a variety.

For the New England Farmer.

Mr. Cole. Dear sir: I have a young, thrifty apple-tree orchard, containing one hundred and thirty trees, of about fourteen years' growth. For the last five or six years, the trees have been infested, as most trees are, more or less, with the *borer*. Last spring, I undertook an experiment for the purpose of exterminating the foe from this orchard, if possible. The course pursued, and the result, I will give you in detail.

On the 13th of last April, I put around the base of the trunk of every tree, from one to two shovels full of house ashes. This was pressed down around the tree as hard as possible. I then put a quarter of an ox cart load of swamp muck around each tree, covering the ashes around the trunk to the depth of about four inches. This I also pressed down, leaving the surface smooth and hard.

From that time until the 14th of the present month, I made many and careful examinations of every tree; and in no single instance did I find any sign or indication of the working of borers. On the 14th of this month, supposing that the time had passed for the miller to deposit her eggs, I commenced removing from each tree the muck and the ashes.

On examining the first tree, I found, about four inches below the surface of the muck, the *chippings* or *castings* of a borer pressed hard against the ashes, the chips having become almost as hard as the bark of the tree. I proceeded to search for him, and immediately found him in what seemed to me a sad predicament. He had excluded himself entirely from the air, and was in a lean, soft, flabby condition, head downwards. The chips he had apparently last made looked old, as if he had given up work for a considerable time before.

This first tree and first borer was a fair sample of the whole, for out of almost every tree in the orchard I dug out from one to ten borers. I found them all, as it were, in a perfectly safe trap, and many of them were actually dead. The result then shows most conclusively to my mind, that the borer was obliged to give up work, in consequence of the muck and ashes being pressed so hard around the trunk of the tree as to exclude the air, and prevent him from throwing out his chips. Since then, there is no sign or indication whatever of the miller having left the trees from April to August, and consequently could not have deposited any eggs the present season, I feel confident that I have *killed every borer*, unless some may have escaped my observation.

Yours truly,

E. SANGER.

Sherburne, *August* 25, 1849.

Editorial Remarks. — We are happy in presenting a new mode of assailing one of the most formidable foes that the fruit-grower has to contend with. This experiment appears perfectly successful, and it presents itself as something that appears reasonable. The ashes and muck scattered around trees in a light soil, or one of common moisture, will, as a manure, abundantly pay all the expense of procuring it. So the expense of killing the borer in this way will be but a mere trifle. We hope that many will try this mode another season, and let all who attempt it make thorough work.

For the New England Farmer.

HEN LICE.

Mr. Editor: I notice that in the Massachusetts Ploughman of the 11th inst., a correspondent makes an inquiry, *What will destroy hen lice?* The editor, in answer, gives no specific remedy, but recommends to give them liberty to range through the fields, and wallow in sand, ashes, &c. He also says, "When chickens are covered with lice, the best way to rid them of the plague is to catch them and smear them over with oil or greasy matter." I was much troubled with these minute insects on my hens and chickens last year; so much so, that one fine hen died while sitting, just before the time for her to hatch. The lice were so plenty, that I could not put my hand or a finger upon their roosts, or timber in connection, half a minute, but that my hand would be immediately covered with them, crawling ahead as fast as possible; and if not immediately brushed off, would extend over the whole body.

Being at East Foxboro' railroad depot, last fall, some person mentioned that a man was there a short time before from Vermont, who stated an *infallible remedy* for hen lice, as follows: —

Boil up a quantity of onions in water. When the onions become soft, mash them up, and with the water stir in Indian corn meal till sufficiently thick to give out to the hens and chickens when cool. They will eat it, and not a louse will be found on them twenty-four hours after, and they will cease to infest their roosting-places after. We made a trial of the above remedy late last fall, and have not been troubled with lice since.

ISAAC STEARNS.

Mansfield, *August* 20, 1849.

Editorial Remarks. — Of all the troubles and vexations, in keeping hens, we know of none so serious as that minute insect that infests hens, when they are confined, or are kept in large flocks. Many a time we have set a hen in a new box, and clean nest, perfectly free from lice, and have carefully guarded against them in the hen-house; but the insidious foes would come from their hiding-places, and attack the quiet hen, who could make no resistance, and either kill her on the nest, or compel her to leave it before hatching. At first, we put a little lard on the hen; but we found that, in such cases, the eggs never hatched. Afterwards, as the lice increased, we brushed them from the eggs, and put them in a new nest and box, and rubbed yellow or dry snuff on the hen, and let her run and burrow half an hour or an hour to get rid of the snuff and lice. This was a great deal of trouble; and should the above simple mode generally prove a remedy, this little item of information will be a great acquisition to the poulterer. We advise those who try this remedy, to examine the eggs laid soon after the onions are given to the hens, and see if they are not affected by the onions.

For the New England Farmer.

EXPERIMENTS ON POTATOES.

Mr. Editor: I noticed an article in your paper of May 26, on planting large or small potatoes. I have several times tried the experiment by planting large and small potatoes where the land and manuring were the same; and the result, in size and quality, I believe, in every case, has been in favor of large potatoes. As my experiments were not put in writing at the time, I cannot now give an exact statement of the experiment. I will, however, give the result of two, as near as I can recollect.

Several years since, I planted a piece of potatoes, and I selected eight rows about ten rods long: the land and manuring were alike. I planted two rows with all large ones, one in a hill, and the hills about three feet apart. Two rows of cut potatoes, cut nearly as follows: those a little larger than a hen's egg cut open once; larger ones into three or four pieces, according to their size; five rows with small potatoes, and two rows with small pieces of potatoes cut off with the eyes.

Immediately after they came up, the two rows where the large potatoes were planted could be distinguished at a considerable distance, by their being much larger than the others, and the difference continued through the season. When they were dug, they were carefully measured, and the result was, (as near as I can now recollect,) that the crop of large ones over the cut ones was more than all the seed of the large ones. The two rows of small ones and those planted with the eyes cut off were nearly the same, but of smaller size and considerably less in quantity than those planted with cut potatoes.

At another time, I planted one row with large potatoes cut in two pieces; another row with large potatoes without cutting; and another row with potatoes about the size of a small hen's egg. The produce of the cut potatoes and large potatoes without cutting was nearly the same; but there were less small ones where the potatoes were cut. In the other row, the quantity was less, and the size smaller. From the above and other similar experiments, I have long been of the opinion that it is not profitable to plant small potatoes.

Yours with respect,

JOSEPH HOWE.

Methuen, 1849.

Editorial Remarks. — The result of Mr. Howe's experiment is similar to our own. In most cases, we get the largest yield from planting large potatoes; and we think that by planting large potatoes, or those from medial to large, the variety may be improved, or it may be saved from deterioration, which must attend constant planting of small potatoes. We give this as a matter of opinion, and we have many facts to support our views. Yet we may err. We have no positive proof to show that constant planting of small potatoes for many years will cause degeneracy, yet we have circumstantial evidence to support this proposition, and it seems to be according to analogy; for all races of animals degenerate on breeding from the smallest. But we may mistake as to analogy; for a hill of potatoes, in regard to small and large ones, may be different from a litter of pigs or brood of chickens. Late-planted beets, turnips, &c., are best for seed, as they possess more vigor than full-grown roots. It may be similar with the potato. We find late-planted potatoes excellent for seed; and since the rot has prevailed, the English plant late for seed, and dig the crop while green or immature. The small potatoes are frequently those that set late; and as the first that set monopolize most of the food prepared to nourish the tubers, and the plant comes to maturity, or becomes exhausted for want of nourishment, the small potatoes must continue small; yet they may be in good condition

for seed. This subject is unsettled, and we need more exact experiments on it.

SOILS ON WHICH LIME IS USEFUL.

By James Hyatt, Chemist of the Mount Airy Agricultural Institute, Germantown, Pa.

Lime may be advantageously applied, in proper quantities, and under proper circumstances, to all soils, except to marly and calcareous ones; that is, except to those which already contain upwards of five or six per cent. of carbonate of lime, and in certain cases, even, to some of these.

The lands which lime benefits in the greatest degree are the following: Peaty soils, and those which contain large quantities of vegetable matter; clayey soils, which are needed to be rendered more light, open, and active; lands that are worn out by long and exhausting culture; soils sterile from the existence of green copperas (proto-sulphate of iron) in considerable quantities; soils wanting potash; and those which are found to be deficient in the quantity of lime necessary for its supply to the growing crops. On other soils, lime may often be profitably employed according to their mechanical condition and chemical composition, and to the expense of liming; as will be hereafter explained. Those soils which contain a proper proportion of the other different mineral ingredients necessary to fertility, together with sufficient organic matter, and which are of the right mechanical structure as to mellowness, being neither too compact nor too open, may need no application of lime for a long series of years, although the percentage of lime in them is very small. Chemical analyses have shown, that soils known to be fertile without manures, may contain no more than one five hundredth part of lime; for then, though the proportion of lime is inconsiderable, yet we learn by calculation that an acre of soil, six inches in depth, will contain about a ton and a half of lime — undoubtedly more than sufficient for the supply of rotations of crops for a quarter of a century.

These fertile soils, however, which contain such small, and even somewhat larger proportions of lime, may doubtless be made to yield larger and surer crops, by its addition in considerable quantities. The effects of lime on such soils are, with proper management, altogether beneficial, notwithstanding that they then require, besides the expense of liming, a more costly system of manuring. The increased production that follows the liming tends to exhaust the soil of its necessary ingredients, and to destroy its fertile properties, so that, while lime is continued to be applied, instead of supplying the place of other manures, it becomes necessary to be more liberal in their application. The farmer who increases his crops, without increasing his manures, will soon render his soil barren. All this extra labor and expense, however, will be amply repaid by the gain in production; for if there is any profit in raising a light or a medium crop on a piece of land, this profit rapidly swells, as the same land is made to yield its heavier products. It would not be advisable that time and money should be lavished in the injudicious and extravagant application of manures. That which a farm is capable of yielding in the shape of animal and vegetable manures, should be carefully husbanded, as well as that which can be economically purchased and applied. And foreign substances, in the shape of ashes, plaster, bone-dust, or salt, of which the land may stand in absolute want, must be procured. With care and good judgment in these matters, such a soil as is referred to may be limed with great advantage. — *Transactions N. Y. Ag. Soc.*

Remarks by Editor N. E. Farmer. — In England, and some parts of this country, great improvement has been made in lands by the liberal application of lime alone. In some cases, several hundred bushels have been applied to the acre, and the abundant crops from soil that was previously sterile, have amply repaid the outlay.

But in New England, farmers have not generally found sufficient advantage from the use of lime to pay the expense. In many sections, there is sufficient lime in the soil; and in some cases, the failures from the application of lime may have been owing to the improper application. Caustic lime is often applied directly to the growing crop, which would probably be injurious the first season, even if it would prove beneficial in future; and the cultivator often judges hastily, and condemns lime without waiting to give it a fair test. The result should be carefully noted for several years. Some experiments in England have shown a favorable result for twenty years after the application of lime.

FUEL IN PARIS.

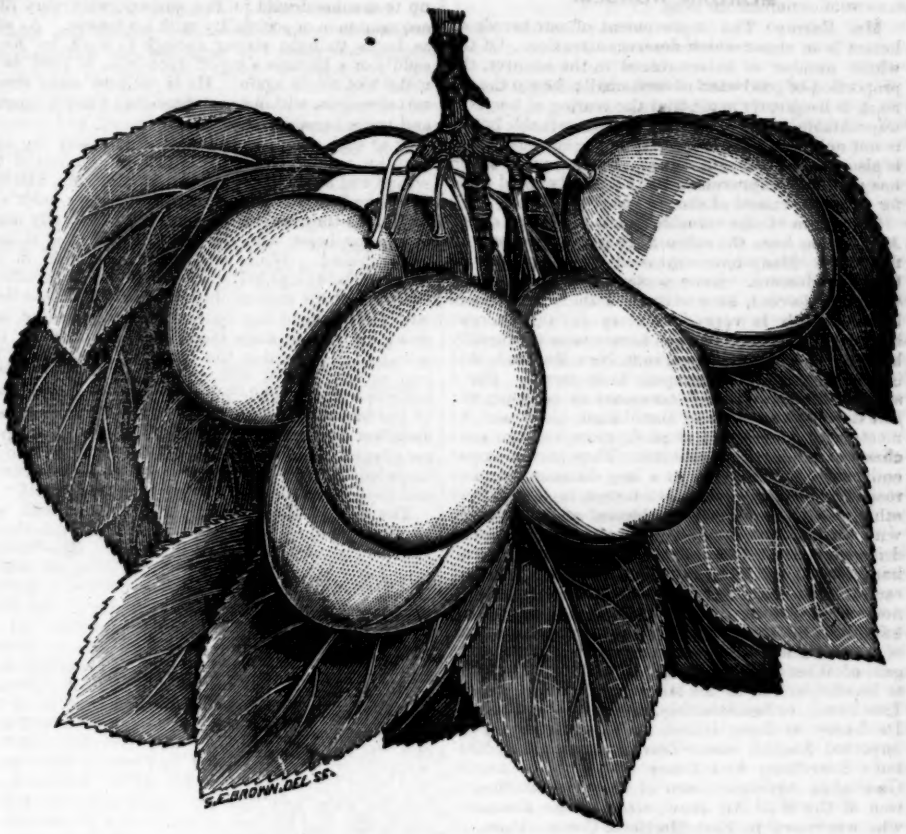
There are wood and coal shops in every street, and at almost every corner, where you can buy any sort of fuel you choose to order; and as it is always sold by the pound, there is no dispute or uncertainty as to the quantity, and the price appears to be uniform throughout the city. The most rigid economy prevails as to the use of fuel. I never saw any thing like it, and I myself have learnt many a useful lesson. The French often submit patiently to a degree of cold, which, with our habits, we should think scarcely endurable. In this respect, I think they show their wisdom, and I believe have fewer colds and catarrhs, than prevail with us. They never make a fire, unless absolutely necessary. Their fuel, in the next place, is always perfectly dry, and is presented in the most convenient forms. They use much charcoal for cooking, in which there is great economy. They have none of the detestable cooking stoves which are used with us, filling the house with odors of the most disagreeable kind; but they have ranges of little furnaces, where they cook entirely with charcoal, and so placed that all the odor of the food is carried off. They have every contrivance for making a fire instantly, and are never at a loss for heat, so numerous and complete are their appliances. — *Selected.*

ONE THING AT A TIME.

Step among your neighbors, reader, and see whether those of them who have got along smoothly, and accumulated property, and gained a good name, have not been men who bent themselves to one single branch of business; — who brought all their powers to bear upon one point, and built on one foundation. It must be so.

Go out in spring, when the sun is yet far distant, and you can scarcely feel the influence of his beams, scattered as they are over the wide face of creation; but collect those beams to a focus, and they kindle up a flame in an instant. So the man that squanders his talents and his strength on many things, will fail to make an impression with either; but let him draw them to a point — let him strike at a single object, and it will yield before him. — *Selected.*

The bones of birds are hollow, and filled with air instead of marrow.



PRINCE'S YELLOW GAGE PLUM.

Synonymes — *Yellow Gage, American Yellow Gage, White Gage.*

This plum was raised sixty-six years ago, by the elder Mr. Prince, of Flushing. The excellency of its fruit, and the habits of the tree, commend it for general culture, as it is among the very best early plums. The tree is remarkably hardy, very vigorous, and productive.

The fruit is large medial; nearly oval; slight suture; of a rich golden-yellow covered with white bloom; stem nearly an inch in length, slender, in a very narrow cavity; flesh deep yellow, rich, sweet, and melting; sometimes a little dry, or juice not abundant. Freestone. Ripens from the twelfth to the last of August.

The Yellow Gage forms a large, long-lived tree, and is among the best and most valuable plums of its season, either for market or the private garden. A few days ago, we saw in the garden of Mr. Henry Vandyne, Cambridgeport, two trees of this variety, that were set twenty-four years ago. One is in a healthy, vigorous condition; the other has lost a part of its top, but it has been a profitable tree, having produced in one year upwards of fifty dollars worth of fruit. Mr. A. Lackey, Jr., of Marblehead, had two and a half bushels this season from a tree set out eight years ago, from a fine bunch of which our engraving is made.

OBITUARY.

Within a short period, two of the most distinguished lights in the agricultural community of our country have set forever.

About two months ago, Elias Phinney, Esq., died at his residence in Lexington. As a practical farmer and agricultural writer, Mr. Phinney held a distinguished rank; and he was one of the principal pioneers in agricultural improvement in this country. Though he is no more, his works still live, and are exerting a wide-spread and happy influence.

Rev. Henry Colman, long distinguished as an able and interesting agricultural writer, who was an agricultural commissioner of this commonwealth, and recently an agricultural tourist in Europe, died, about a month since, in England, as he was about to embark for this country. This was his second trip to that country.

MORGAN HORSES.

Mr. Editor: The improvement of our breeds of horses is an object which deserves attention. Of the whole number of horses reared in the country, the proportion of good ones is very small; hence the remark is frequently made that the rearing of horses is unprofitable. The origin of our most valuable horses is not only a subject of interest to the curious, but it is also one of great importance; and a course which has produced improvement may be safely relied upon for the continuance of similar results.

The origin of the valuable stock of horses called *Morgan*, has been the subject of some controversy in this state. Many have supposed that they were of Canadian descent. Some persons, having horses of Canadian descent, have advertised them as Morgan horses, which is very derogatory to the Morgan blood. The stock of Morgan horses is so universally known and admired throughout New England, that it is hardly necessary to repeat their merits. For a seller of horses, it is only necessary to establish the fact that his horses are of the Morgan blood, and he meets with a ready sale at good prices, and the purchasers are more than satisfied. They excel in great endurance, carrying weight a long distance — and as roadsters, they excel all other horses in this or any other country — are full of noble and generous spirit, with such docility of temper that the most timid can drive them; but if put to their mettle, they are a full hand for the best driver. It has been asserted, and cannot with propriety be denied, that there has never been a stock of horses in New England which has proved so generally useful as the Morgan stock of the original Morgan horse, raised by Justin Morgan, of West Springfield, Mass., in 1793, and taken to Randolph, Vt., in the fall of 1795 — sired by the True Briton, or Beautiful Bay, raised by General James De Lancy, of Long Island, N. Y., and sired by his imported English horse Traveller, (known as Morton's Traveller,) who traces directly back to the Godolphin Arabian. Dam of the original Morgan was of the Wild Air breed, sired by the Diamond, who was raised in East Hartford, Conn. Diamond was sired by the Wild Air, known as the Church Horse. The Church Horse was sired by the Wild Air imported from England by General De Lancy, and afterwards taken back to England. He was a grandson of the Godolphin Arabian. The dam of the Church Horse was an imported Wild Air mare, owned by Captain Samuel Burt, of Springfield, Mass.

The above is the genuine pedigree of the Morgan horse, which is in no way of French Canadian descent, as many have erroneously supposed. The description of the Morgan horse is not in the least exaggerated. J. D. T.

Lincolnville, Me., 1849.

— *Maine Farmer.*

BREAKING A COLT.

Some good people, who raise colts, are not aware that they are thinking animals, and have feelings, passions, and affections, very much like human beings. They cannot talk — that's all. People who do not appreciate the character of horses, are apt to treat them like brutes, without love or mercy, and without any appeal to their glorious intelligence. "The horse knoweth his owner;" — and he knows much more, — he knows when he is treated as a Christian's horse should be — and in respect of treatment the Turk and Arab have much the advantage of us in civilization. Those pagans make friends of their horses — they love each other, and in the sandy desert or the wide plain, they lie down side by side, and each is equally ready to resist the approach of an enemy.

It is not often so with us. The colt is left to grow up to manhood wild in the pasture, with very little acquaintance or sociability with his master. As soon as he is thought strong enough to work, he has a saddle or a harness slapped upon him, so hard as to make him tingle again. He is put into some strong cart or wagon, without understanding what is wanted, and being bewildered in his ignorance, and exasperated at such rough handling, it is generally the case that he exerts his best strength to get out of the scrape and avoid his enemies, by plunging, kicking, throwing himself down, and sundry other such vile tricks, (as they are called,) as would naturally occur to a poor beast who thought himself most villainously abused. While this is the operation in the mind of the unsophisticated colt, the horse-breaker is swearing at his vicious obstinacy, laying on the licks with the string or the butt of the whip handle, and doing his best to draw blood at every stroke. His intention is to subdue the beast to obedience. He may succeed, but it will only be by destroying his noble spirit, and rendering him a tame, passive beast of burden, working only as he is forced, but without ambition or good will. The man is the most ignorant brute of the two. He is destitute of all proper knowledge of the animal who "knoweth his owner," and should be beaten with many stripes himself.

The fact is, the colt should be treated with unvarying kindness, except when he is manifestly vicious, contrary to his own knowledge, after having been fairly taught. When he is taken up for breaking, he should be kept hungry and thirsty, and be fed from the hand of his master; while all the little tokens of praise, fondness, and approbation, which are as gratifying to a horse as to a woman, should be liberally bestowed upon him. No act of rudeness or unkindness should inspire him with fear; — and in a short time he will come to his master, as to his best friend. Let him feel that he is safe in the hands and care of man, and he will place confidence in that attention which is bestowed, and with a light heart will exert himself to please his rider. Bestow upon him the whip, and jerk him about with the halter and bridle, and his temper will rouse to resistance, or sink to stupidity.

A horse may be taught, like a child, by those who have won his affections; but the method of teaching is by showing distinctly what you want him to do, not by beating him because he does not understand and perform at the outset. Judicious management is required in the course of instruction, for these creatures, like men, have very different intellectual capacities and tempers; but all may be mastered by kindness, while the best, the most high-spirited, the most generous, will be ruined by beating.

To illustrate this point, which we mean to enlarge upon hereafter, we will relate a little circumstance that occurred during a tour to the White Hills. Having a horse, — a fine light gray saddle-pony, — we undertook, with a friend, to ride to the summit of one of the mountains. Federal — that was his name — and he belonged to Niles — would have done anything for me, for he and I had become well acquainted, and he was a most noble-hearted fellow. Federal clambered up according to my directions. I thought I could see the best way, and guided him accordingly. We got at last upon the peak, where was a level of some yards square, and Federal, who never had been up so high in the world before, as we slackened the rein, turned three times round to look at the prospect, and then set up a scream of delight. It was not a neigh, nor whinny, nor any common mode of talking for a horse, but it was a regular hurrah, as much as to say, "O! thunder and lightning! Ain't this glorious?"

After a while, we turned to descend, and gave Federal his own way. It seemed at times rather a ticklish job; but he managed it well. The little

rascal stopped now and then and made a survey as carefully as could be done by a civil engineer. He turned and tacked, and worked ship, like an old sailor among the breakers; and being careful and surefooted, he came down as safe as a tortoise. But we brought up at last against a fence — having taken a different direction from that by which we ascended. We rode at the fence fairly, but Federal stopped short. "You fool," said I, "can't you jump?" Tried it again — no go. I stopped a moment, and thinks I to myself, this horse has never leaped a fence in his life. I felt sure he would have tried his best for me at any time, and would have broken his neck sooner than have refused, if he had known exactly what to do. I talked kindly to him — coaxed him — patted his neck; and as soon as I saw his head raised about two or three inches, and his ears pricked up brightly, and felt the muscles of his sides swell under the saddle, I knew he had caught the idea: that was all he wanted: I gave him the hint to try it, and over he went like a swallow, at least two feet higher than was necessary. The little scamp meant to make a sure job of it. He was no sooner down, than he wheeled about, looked at the fence, and snorted, as much as to say, "What do you think of that?" and trotted off. Ever afterwards during our journey, Federal was on the look-out for some excuse for leaping. A log, a run of water across the road, even a stone bridge, he uniformly pricked up his ears at and leaped across — giving a snort each time, to announce his joy at having discovered a new feat.

The moral of this matter has been stated at the outset. Federal only needed to understand what we wanted, to do all in his power for its accomplishment. He was only a hired horse, but we understood and loved each other. He was little, but high-spirited, noble, generous: no whipping on earth would have managed that horse so readily as kindness and encouragement. Pulling, jerking, whipping and spurring, might have been tried in vain to make him leap the fence: with a moment to think about it, and a nice dose of flattering applause, he flew over it like an experienced hunter. More about this hereafter. — *Boston Times.*

PATENT MANURES, ETC.

We are daily applied to for an opinion on newly invented compounds, under the significant titles of Improved Guano, &c. &c., and each manufacturer of course claiming that his production is superior to all others, and recommending it for every crop and on all kinds of soils. These indiscriminately useful compounds, we cannot recommend, except for the use of those who cultivate very small gardens, and require so small a quantity of manures, as to render their manufacture unprofitable to them.

How do these philanthropic manufacturers of manures make a profit sufficient to induce a continuance of their business? This is a natural question for the farmer to ask himself, and he can readily answer, because the material used to divide the more costly part of the ingredients is valueless, or nearly so, and the profit of the manufacturer must necessarily arise from using less of the valuable or costly articles, and more of the divisor or valueless portions.

When these compounds are made in large cities where labor is dear, and packed in barrels, more than half the value to the farmer will be paid for labor, packages, and transportation — while a very considerable portion of the value of the other half must go to the manufacturer as his profit.

Why should the farmer pay for the handling, packing, transportation, &c., of the great mass of these manures, when he has the principal part of their constituents, so far as relates to weight and bulk, at home? If he have on his farm, or near it, dried meadow, pond or other muck or mud, charcoal dust, peat, turf, or indeed headlands or sandy loam, he should not subject himself to the useless expense of paying transportation on these nostrums.

Let our readers supply themselves with a shed, and place under it the following ingredients: — One carboy of sulphuric acid, (oil of vitriol,) a cask of bone dust, a few sacks of dirt, salt, ashes, saltpetre, cubic petre, plaster of Paris, some night soil, thoroughly mixed with charcoal dust, a sack of real Peruvian guano, and, when required, caustic shell lime hot from the kiln, ashes, &c.

Outside the shed let him have a pile of some divisor — charcoal dust, well decomposed muck, peat, turf, or any other semi-inert matter, or even some of his own soil, either of which will answer as a divisor. With such a preparation for manufacture, read the Working Farmer and make your own patent manures, using only such of the ingredients as the crops requiring top-dressing or stimulating may stand most in need of. Such an arrangement will enable the well-read farmer to keep his crops all of an even quality during summer, stimulating those which may require it, &c.

All these ingredients may be bought with one twentieth the expense of transportation, and one tenth the cost to the purchaser that would have to be paid for them in the form of Patent Manures, and then they would be compounded in a manner to suit the crops, soil, &c. Thousands of dollars are annually wasted by the purchase of these nostrums, and a much larger sum from their failure to produce the promised effects. If farmers will not read or study, and must have a stimulating manure, to be used on all sorts of crops when required, let them prepare such manure as recommended in our last number, using a very small quantity of guano divided through a large amount of charcoal dust or other pulverulent matter; if the soil be subject to drought, or suffers habitually from its effects, add a little salt; if it refuses to grow beans, peas, and onions, add a little bone-dust and soot, if you have it. This mixture, or similar ones, will do well to drill in with turnips, carrots, parsnips, &c. Read our articles on manures attentively, and no difficulty will be found in forming the proper compound for each and every crop. — *Working Farmer.*

TO CURE A STIFLED HORSE.

J. B. Goddard, of Norwich, Connecticut, writes to the American Agriculturist, as follows: —

Take one gallon of urine, and put therein a small handful of junk tobacco; boil down to one quart; then add two ounces of oil spike, one ounce of oil of amber, two spoonfuls of spirits of turpentine, and two spoonfuls of honey. Put it into a jug, and cork it tight for use. Process of application: Rub the stifle-bone hard with the mixture fifteen or twenty minutes; then dry it in thoroughly with a red-hot fire shovel; then ride the horse forth and back one hundred yards. Repeat the above two or three times, and the cure will be effected.

FALLEN FRUIT.

Be very careful to gather all punctured or decaying fruits, whether on your trees or on the ground, and give them to your hogs. If you do not, the worms which they contain, and which have been the cause of their premature decay, will make their escape into the ground, and you will find the evils, which await their visitations, will increase upon you another season.

Domestic Department.

MATERNAL INFLUENCE. — If we would preserve our republican institutions from decay, — if we would transmit the liberties of freemen, and, to all appearance, the world's last political hope, to a posterity capable of guarding the sacred trust, — it is a truth, about which there is no debate, that we must have mothers of the right stamp. It is the mother who forms the character; it is she that bends the twig. It is the mother that instils her own principles into the opening and confiding mind; it is she that stamps the lasting impress upon the tender and warm feelings, which forms the basis of the subsequent character of the man and of the citizen. In vain may we enact wholesome laws; in vain may we establish a wise and republican system for the management of our national finances; in vain may we present to the world the show of a just and equitable republican government, wisely balanced and adjusted in all its parts, — if the worm of maternal ignorance and neglect should prey at the root. On what ground do the great pillars of our liberty stand? Is it not the instructions of the family circle — the impressions received in the nursery? Let the mother be addicted to fashion, vain show, idle visiting, and gay frivolity, to the neglect of the solid duties which devolve upon her, in relation to her family and her children, and they will grow up like the wild and poisonous weeds of the uncultivated field, rarely qualified for the enlightened and faithful discharge of their duties to the country.

Those influences which are silent, subtile, and unseen, are the most powerful. The dews of heaven fall in silence and unperceived, during the still hours of night; but they refresh and gladden the whole face of nature. The attraction of gravitation is a mighty power, which binds the universe together; but it is unostentatious and unseen. So is maternal influence; it is exerted amid the sacred and sequestered scenes of the family circle, but with a power which nothing can stay, and with an effect which nothing can destroy.

The philosopher, who, in some secluded haunt of a crowded city, works out those great truths, which give birth to revolutions and republics, is lost amid the glare and blaze of the practical statesman, who builds upon his foundation, and carries out his principles. Even the prudent and eloquent statesman, who furnishes the sinew and strength of war, is often forgotten amid the dazzling blaze of military glory which encircles the brow of the conqueror.

So, while the mother is not seen, and her fair fame may be utterly obscured by the brilliancy of her son's deeds, still it is her influence and instructions that constitute the fountain to which they owe their origin. — *Selected.*

SWEET FLAG PREPARATION. — We have received, from Mrs. Bela Hubbard, a specimen of the sweet flag preparation, to which allusion was made in the Farmer a few numbers back, together with the following recipe. We tender our thanks for the very agreeable treat; it is certainly quite a luxury in its way, and as healthful to the system as it is pleasant to the taste, the flag being thus divested of its pungency, while it retains its peculiar aromatic flavor in a mild form.

Recipe. — After peeling, slice the roots, put them into cold water, and boil until the strength is reduced to the degree that is desired; then make a thick sirup of sugar and water, in which boil the flag, stirring constantly, until the sirup becomes candied and dry, the flag being completely coated and saturated with it. — *Michigan Farmer.*

Boys' Department.

BUSINESS FIRST, THEN PLEASURE. — A man who is very rich now, was very poor when he was a boy. When asked how he got his riches, he replied, "My father taught me never to play till all my work for the day was finished, and never to spend money till I had earned it. If I had but half an hour's work to do in a day, I must do that the first thing, and in half an hour. After this was done, I was allowed to play; and I could then play with much more pleasure than if I had the thought of an unfinished task before my mind. I early formed the habit of doing every thing in its time, and it soon became perfectly easy to do so. It is to this habit that I now owe my prosperity." Let every boy who reads this, go and do likewise. — *Wright's Casket.*

THE GLOWWORM. — No two insects can differ more than the male and the female of this species from each other. The male is in every respect a beetle, having cases to its wings, and rising in the air at pleasure; the female, on the contrary, has none, but is entirely a creeping insect, and is obliged to wait the approaches of her capricious companion. The body of the female has eleven joints, with a shield breastplate, the shape of which is oval; the head is placed over this, and is very small, and the three last joints of her body are of a yellowish color: but what distinguishes it from all other animals, is the shining light which it emits by night, and which is supposed by some philosophers to be an emanation which she sends forth to allure the male to her company. — *Selected.*

Health.

BATHING. — We have already urged upon the attention of our readers the importance of frequent bathing or washing as a preservative of health and promoter of comfort; yet so negligent are most persons on this subject, that they need line upon line. As various disorders now prevail in nearly all parts of our country, and some diseases are severe and fatal, we again urge the importance of this simple and effectual remedy or preventive.

Frequent washing the whole body, and rubbing it thoroughly with a coarse cloth, keeps the skin clean and healthy, and keeps open the pores, so that the perspiration freely passes off. But if washing is neglected, the skin becomes foul, perspirable matter gathers upon its surface, forming a coat, and closing the pores, and the large amount of matter usually thrown off by perspiration is thrown back upon the intestines or vital parts, which, from the languid state of the system at this season, can hardly perform their usual functions, and they become diseased under too great a burden.

Thus a want of frequent washing is one of the principal causes of summer complaint, dysentery, fevers, cholera morbus, and Asiatic cholera. Now, is it not astonishing that people have a great fear of these diseases, which walk in darkness and waste at noonday, and they continue to nourish this fear, which is the way to court disease, or induce it in the sys-

tem, by the power of the imagination, and yet they do not take the precautionary step to prevent it, by bathing and washing?

Prepare for every thing and dread nothing. We are in constant danger of sickness and death, but we should prepare for them and guard against them, but never fear them. It is sufficient to endure these ills when they come upon us, without becoming ill with the fear of sickness, and, like the coward, experiencing a thousand deaths in dreading one. Many persons in our country have not experienced a thorough washing for months, and some for years; yet they fear disease.

Every person, from the youngest infant to the aged and infirm, should wash thoroughly several times a week. He that does not do it is inviting disease by his neglect or indolence. There is no excuse, for every one has time and means to attend to it. If no other season can be found, take a few minutes from the time of sleep, on retiring at night. If no better convenience is at hand, every family is provided with water, a tub, and a towel, which are all the apparatus that is absolutely necessary, though shower baths and bathing tubs may be more convenient. Water of the same temperature as the air may be used at all seasons, with perfect safety, excepting by very weak invalids, who may find warm water preferable; but some invalids find cold water better. A room without artificial heat is warm enough to bathe in, even in the coldest weather.

Let every one ponder this subject well, and instead of sitting idle, and dreading the loss of health or life, in himself or family, let him arouse from his stupor, shake off that indolence or apathy that weighs him down like an incubus, and, as a man of common sense, use the simple means of cold water as a preventive of disease and death, which may invade his family from his own negligence.

It is worthy of remark that during the summer of 1832, when the cholera raged so terribly throughout France, and also during the present visitation, out of sixteen thousand two hundred and eighteen subscribers to the public baths in Paris, Bourdeaux, and Marseilles, only two deaths occurred among them. When it is considered that among these sixteen thousand two hundred and eighteen, of both sexes, there must have been persons of all ages and of all conditions, this remarkable fact speaks trumpet-tongued in favor of bathing.

Dysentery. — A very skilful physician recommends the following as an excellent remedy: "A tablespoonful, rounded, of crushed sugar, the same quantity of superfine flour, half a teaspoonful of carbonate of soda, (the same as used for raising bread in connection with some acid, as cream of tartar,) half a wine glass of good brandy, and a teaspoonful of essence of cinnamon. This is a dose for an adult. Stir all up in warm water, and take."

On checking the dysentery, warm teas, such as sage, pennyroyal, &c., should be given, with some warm medicine, like composition powder, and more clothes applied, in order to get up a perspiration, that the matter which has tended to the intestines, may be thrown out in perspiration, and the whole system assume its usual functions.

If inflammation or soreness of the bowels prevails, a strong tea of raspberry leaves is very good. In severe cases, tenesmus, as it is technically called, is very common. It is a painful straining, with sensation to discharge, in the lower extremity of the body, frequently without discharges. This is owing to an inflammation of the rectum; and medicines administered have but little effect, as their virtues are spent before they reach the disease. As a remedy, use injections of lukewarm water, with one or two tablespoonfuls of salt, and the same quantity of crushed sugar to a pint of water. Or raspberry tea would be preferable to water. Use these injections daily, or, in severe cases, several times a day, while the tenesmus continues.

English Children. — Mrs. Kirkland, in some notes of travel in England, thus speaks of the physical management of children in that country: —

"Pretty children one sees in abundance every where — and so nicely kept! It seems to us that nobody knows so well how to take care for the physique of children as the English. They feed them with the simplest possible food, and are astonished when they hear that our young folks share the rich, heavy, high-seasoned dishes of their parents. Oatmeal porridge is considered a suitable breakfast for infant royalty itself; and a simpler dinner at one o'clock, the proper thing for children whose parents dine sumptuously at seven. Exercise is considered one of the necessaries of life, and a daily walk or ride (not drive) in the fresh air, the proper form for it. It might be superfluous to notice any thing so obvious if it were not that so many people in good circumstances, with us, neglect this, and keep their children immured in nurseries, or cooped up in school-rooms, with no thought of exercise in the open air as amply requisite. We wish nothing so much for these benighted parents, as that they should once become acquainted with the habits and principles of a well-ordered English nursery. A reform in that quarter is very much needed among us, and we know of no people so well able to be our instructors as the English, who have certainly brought the nursery system to great perfection, both as respects the comfort and advantage of the parents and children. — *Selected.*

Mechanics' Department, Arts, &c.

Zinc. — This metal was first mentioned by Paracelsus; but its ores were known at a much earlier period. In commerce, it is often called *spelter;* and is obtained either from the native carbonate of zinc, called *calamine*, or from the native sulphuret or *blende* of mineralogists. These ores are roasted and mixed with charcoal or carbonaceous flux; the mixture is put into a kind of crucible closed at the top, and perforated at bottom by an iron tube, which passes through the grate of the furnace into water; the vapor of the zinc distils downwards through this tube, and is condensed in the water. The first portions are impure, containing arsenic, and often cadmium, in which case the vapor burns, with what the workmen call a *brown blaze;* when the *blue blaze* appears, the zinc is collected. The zinc of commerce

(which is not quite pure) has a peculiar bluish color and lustre, a lamellar and crystalline texture, and its specific gravity is about 7. At common temperatures, it is tough and intractable under the hammer; and when heated to above 500°, it becomes brittle, and fuses at about 770°. But at temperatures between 220° and 320°, it becomes malleable and ductile; so that it may be beaten out under the hammer, and rolled into sheets and leaves, and drawn into wire, in a manner extremely remarkable when its highly crystalline texture is considered. Being a cheap and light metal, and one which, after having been superficially oxidized, long resists the further action of air and water, it has lately been much employed as a substitute for lead in lining water cisterns and covering buildings; it has also been lately employed in the curious operation of transferring printing, (under the name of *zincography*.) It is a very inflammable metal, burning in the flame of a spirit lamp with a brilliant white light; but the oxide which forms interferes with its continuous combustion, which can only be carried on at a high red heat, when the vapor of the metal burns with an intensely bright flame, and yields at the same time a quantity of flocculent oxide, which floats about in the surrounding air, and was formerly called *philosopher's wool, pamphelix*, and *nihil album*. The equivalent of zinc is 32, and that of its oxide 40. Though zinc is apparently without action upon water, yet it is a most oxidable metal; but the insolubility of its oxide protects it from further action, so that when a film is once formed upon it, it resists further change; but when a little acid is present in the water, and the zinc not quite pure, it is rapidly acted upon, and oxidized at the expense of the water, which evolves abundance of hydrogen, (when dilute sulphuric acid is used,) and the oxide of zinc is removed and dissolved by the acid. It is this action which renders zinc so powerful a generator of electricity in the voltaic pile. The salts of zinc are mostly soluble, and have a nauseous, astringent, and metallic taste. The sulphate of zinc, or white vitriol, is employed in medicine as an emetic and tonic, and the oxide and carbonate are externally used in the form of ointment. The chloride of zinc is a colorless compound, fusible at a heat a little above 212°, and known to the older chemists under the name of *butter of zinc*. Brass is an alloy of zinc and copper. — *Plough, Loom, and Anvil.*

IMPORTANCE OF WELL-DIRECTED LABOR.

A single stroke of an axe is of little consequence; yet by the continual application of that small power, properly directed, what amazing effects are produced! The sturdy oak and lofty pine do not simply own its power, but whole forests lie before it, and the wilderness becomes a garden.

Industry, well directed, will give a man a competency in a few years. The greatest industry misapplied is useless.

As an example, there is my neighbor. Seth Steady, the blacksmith, is not only an industrious man, but his industry is applied to one object. His hammer is heard at dawn of day, and the fire blazes in his shop, during the evenings, from the 20th of September till the 20th of March. Go to his shop at any time of the day for any kind of work, you are sure to be waited upon. The consequence is, his purse is filled with dollars, and his cellar well filled with provision; and that's what I call quite comfortable. Although suitably liberal, and enjoying the good things of this life as he goes on, ten years of health will enable him to purchase a good farm.

As a contrast, there is my friend Nat Notional, the busiest and most industrious mortal in existence; as the old saying is, "he has too many irons in the fire," and with all his industry, he goes behindhand.

He has a fine farm, but instead of pursuing the cultivation of it, he flies off, and seizes on every new project that occurs.

A few years ago, he concluded to give up the dairy business, in consequence of the low price of butter and cheese; sold his cows at a low figure, and purchased sheep at a high rate, for wool then demanded a high price. By the time he got fairly into the raising of wool, down went the price of wool, and up went the price of butter and cheese. He then sold his sheep, and purchased cows again, for cheese was up and wool was down. And finally, he changed his business so often, because he wasn't contented to thrive, little by little, as Seth Steady did, that he got completely used up, and is now only fit for California, or some other wool-gathering project.

So you see that well-directed labor is sure to meet its reward; while he who keeps a dozen irons in the fire, and none of them hot, will as surely meet with the fate of poor Nat Notional. — *Selected.*

VASES AND BASKETS OF GRASSES.

A well-stocked flower garden and a well-managed greenhouse are, certainly, very important aids in forming hand-bouquets, or those designed for display in baskets or vases. The great variety of delicate textures, of beautiful colors, and of delightful odors which they afford, is sufficient to hide many faults of arrangement, and to insure to any one the power of making something attractive. The white lily is always fragrant, the rose always cheerful and pretty, the heart's-ease always modest and unpretending, and honeysuckle always graceful. Put either of these in any part of a group of cut flowers, in the centre, at the top, at the sides, they are never out of place. The general effect of the whole will, indeed, be greatly heightened by each being placed in its proper position among its proper companions. The full bright face of the rose fits it for the centre; the humility and simplicity of the violet accords with a situation near the base, or lower edge; the erect and strong stem of the lily seems to lay claim to the summit; and a loose wreath of honeysuckle may surround the whole. Attention to such things as these is very important; but as respects the pets of the flower garden, it is not absolutely indispensable. Every body will love them, arrange them as you will. Even though thrown carelessly together, without the least regard to floral proprieties, they would still be pretty.

Good taste is the secret of success in these cases. And, by the exercise of a little of this quality, the most beautiful vase or basket bouquets may be made, without pretty flowers. The lady who possesses it may be, in some degree, independent of both greenhouse and garden. The meadows will yield her materials. A few weeks ago, I saw some baskets and vases in which were grasses of different kinds, and grasses alone, so arranged as to produce an effect exceedingly beautiful, — so beautiful as to excite me to hope that they might become much more common. — *Sartain's Mag.*

HILLS AGAINST LEVEL LANDS.

A correspondent of the Gardener's Chronicle says, "In a lecture on land surveying by a French professor on mathematics, at the college of Blois, the lecturer informed his audience that in the purchase of hilly or uneven land, its extent is estimated or measured, not according to the area of the surface,

but according to the area of its horizontal base; because, he added, 'it is a well-known fact in agriculture, that no more can be grown on a hill or slope than on a horizontal piece of land equal to its base.' Now, as this 'well-known fact' is not only not well known, but even strongly, though in my opinion absurdly disputed amongst many of our Yorkshire farmers, perhaps you will be kind enough to give it publicity in your next number. Perhaps of moss and other low or creeping plants, a greater crop may be grown on a slope than on a horizontal piece of land equal to its base; but with regard to vertically growing plants, such as hay-grass, corn, or trees, it appears to me that the French professor was perfectly correct."

HOW TO FEED SALT TO BEES.

After you make cheese, take the whey, and mix it with bran thick enough to allow the bees to stand on it without clotting their wings; place it in a trough or board six or eight rods from the hive; or take an empty salt barrel, and put into it a bushel of bran or two, pour in sour milk or water, make it firm enough so as the bees will not drown. From this they will extract the salt which will ooze from the barrel. As they empty the barrel of its liquid, renew it again. This will be of great service in dry weather to the bees. — *Michigan Farmer.*

OBSERVATION ON THE MILLER WHICH ANNOYS BEES.

Last season, I allowed about six sunflowers to grow near my beehives; when in flower, they attracted the miller, which fed on them late in the evening, appeared quite stupid, so much so, that I could pick them off with my hand and deal with them as I would wish. I am now trying several experiments with my bees, the result of which I will make known through the Farmer.

— *Michigan Farmer.* SINENSIS.

MONSTER APPLE-TREES.

There is an apple-tree on the estate of Joseph Briggs, on Federal Hill, in the town of Dedham, supposed to be a hundred years old, which measures thirteen feet and a half in circumference, one foot from the ground. Its branches cover an area of about sixty feet in diameter. This tree is second only to that in Duxbury, which is sixteen feet in circumference a foot or two above the surface of the ground, is over one hundred years old, and bore in one year fruit which made ten barrels of cider, in addition to thirty barrels of apples put in the cellar. — *Boston Traveller.*

BLACK SHEEP.

A neighbor selected a very likely young ram which he designed "turning out," and at shearing time made known such intention to his "headman," Peter. The shearing being over, Peter came to his master and said the lamb he had selected would not do to "turn out," unless he wished to have black sheep in his flock. "How do you make that out, Pete?" said his master; "the lamb is the whitest in the flock." "That may be," replied Pete; "but I tell you half his lambs will be black, *for he has a black streak under his tongue.*" The master and myself, in talking upon the subject, came to the conclusion that a greater man than Pete had advanced the same opinion, and accordingly we picked up an old Virgil and commenced the search. After no little trouble, we found the following: — (Geo. 3, 387.)

> "Illum autem, quamvis aries sit candidus ipse,
> Nigra subest udo tantum cui lingua palato,
> Rejice, ne maculis infuscet vellera pullis
> Nascentum."

The English of which, I presume is, But, though the ram himself may be white, reject him under whose moist palate there is a black tongue, that he may not darken the fleeces of the lambs with blackish spots.

Whether Pete borrowed the idea from the "Mantuan Bard" or not, is a matter of no consequence. The question for you, Mr. Botts, or some of your correspondents, is, Is the idea correct? We have, you see, the opinion of a "book farmer" and a practical one — of an ancient and a modern one — a great man and a little one. — *Southern Planter.*

MUSCULAR STRENGTH.

The muscular power of the human body is indeed wonderful. A Turkish porter will trot a rapid pace, and carry a weight of six hundred pounds. Milo, a celebrated athlete of Crotona, in Italy, accustomed himself to carry the greatest burdens, and by degrees became a monster in strength. It is said that he carried on his shoulder an ox four years old, weighing upwards of one thousand pounds, for about forty rods, and afterwards killed him with one blow of his fist. He was seven times crowned at the Pythian games, and six at the Olympian. He presented himself the seventh time, but no one had the courage to enter the list against him. He was one of the disciples of Pythagoras, and to his uncommon strength the learned preceptor and his pupils owed their lives. The pillar which supported the roof of the house suddenly gave way, but Milo supported the whole weight of the building, and gave the philosopher time to escape. In old age he attempted to pull up a tree by its roots, and break it. He partially effected it; but his strength being gradually exhausted, the tree, where cleft, reunited, and left his hand pinched in the body of it. He was then alone, and, unable to disengage himself, died in that position.

Haller mentioned that he saw a man, whose finger caught in a chain at the bottom of a mine, by keeping it forcibly bent, supported by that means the whole weight of his body, one hundred and fifty pounds, until he was drawn up to the surface, a distance of six hundred feet.

Augustus II., king of Poland, could roll up a silver plate like a sheet of paper, and twist the strongest horse-shoe asunder.

A lion is said to have left the impression of his teeth upon a piece of solid iron.

The most prodigious power of muscle is exhibited by the fish. The whale moves with a velocity through the dense medium of water that would carry him, if continued at the same rate, around the world in less than a fortnight; and a sword-fish has been known to strike his weapon through the oak plank of a ship. — *Selected.*

ON CUTTING OUT HOOKS OR HAWS.

Before I was acquainted with this subject, two years ago, I had two young horses sacrificed to this mistaken and ruinous operation. Ignorant quacks do not know that the horse has a membrane peculiar to the animal, which is at pleasure drawn over the eye. The enlargement of this, by a fever, produces the appearance, which, in jockey slang, is called the *hooks.* Reduce the fever by depletion, such as bleeding plentifully, purging, &c., and have the

horse well rubbed, and the hooks will disappear; that is, the membrane is restored to its natural size and office, which is to clear the eye from dust, &c., accidentally entering it. I need not mention the cutting out of this useful membrane unnecessary, as I have proved the uselessness of this operation by restoring a horse without it a few days ago.

W. V. MURRAY.

— *American Farmer.*

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

We are indebted to Hon. D. P. King, for the Patent Office Report of 1848. It is a large work, of over 800 pages, which we have not had time to examine. It is illustrated with very fine engravings.

From Hon. Rufus M'Intire, Parsonsfield, Me., president of York Agricultural Society, half a bushel of Kloss Blue Stem, white winter wheat, for distribution. We have already distributed a part of this grain, and we shall be pleased to furnish, in small parcels, the rest to those who would experiment upon it. This wheat has succeeded well with Mr. M'Intire for a few years, when sowed in season, say the last of August. The first of September would be in season here. Late sowing will sometimes succeed well, but it is not so sure. The reader will find some remarks on this grain on page 11th of this volume.

From Mr. John M. Ives, two or three weeks since, Summer Rose apple, which is one of the most beautiful, and a fine fruit for the garden; Summer Queen, a fine cooking apple, and pretty good for the dessert, but not first rate; Ives's Sopsavine, which is a very handsome early apple. Medial size, roundish-conical; pale yellow, nearly covered with bright red; of a fine flavor, and very promising.

From John Washburn, Esq., Plymouth, the Watson pear, a native of that town. Size medial or small medial, flattish-obovate; yellowish russet; flesh tender, melting, and of a fine spicy flavor, grown on the pear; on the quince stock, it is inferior, which is another evidence of the effect of the stock on the fruit of the scion.

Plums of Mr. John C. Hewins, Dorchester, under the name of Roe's Autumn Gage; but they are not true to the mark. It is, doubtless, Cruger's Scarlet, a very productive variety, and pretty good for market. Roe's Autumn Gage is of a pale yellow; it ripens later in the season, and is one of the most valuable kinds cultivated, and particularly profitable from its lateness, as well as for its good properties.

Of Mr. L. M. Hayes, Farmington, N. H., a seedling apple, of his raising. It is very fair, handsome, and pleasant fruit. As it was gathered before fully ripe, we cannot judge precisely of its quality.

From Egbert Cowles, Farmington, Ct., pleasant native grapes, of good size and early maturity, which he regards as among the most desirable of several varieties. They are from the seed of the wild grape. By frequently planting the seed of the wild vine, and its product, a great improvement can doubtless be made. Any information from Mr. C., concerning the Charter Oak grape, will be very acceptable.

For the New England Farmer.

THE OLD FAMILIAR FARM-HOUSE.

BY MRS. E. C. LOOMIS.

The old familiar farm-house is falling to decay,
And those who were its inmates have long since passed away;
Yet round it fondly lingers full many a vision bright
Of childhood's sunny moments, so fraught with pure delight.

The old familiar farm-house! Its lofty, ancient trees,
Which catch the earliest sunlight, and wave in every breeze,
Like sentinels are standing, their lonely watch to keep,
While he whose fingers trained them has sunk in death's long sleep.

The old familiar farm-house! Its garden once was fair,
With many a blooming floweret; but weeds are rankling there,
And tangled vines, neglected, o'er broken arbors cling,
And from their matted foliage the household robins sing.

The old familiar farm-house! Alas! 'tis desolate!
No words of cheering welcome the wearied traveller greet,
And from its ample hearth-stone there comes no voice of glee,
No gush of childish laughter, no song of melody.

The old familiar farm-house! It wakens memory's spell,
And tells of by-gone pleasures, remembered, O, how well!
And though 'tis now deserted, and will soon in ruins lie,
Sweet visions round it cluster that cannot fade and die.

LEBANON, CT., *August*, 1849.

THE OLIO.

Some one called Richard Steele the "vilest of mankind." He retorted, with proud humility, "It would be a glorious world if I were."

Some descendant of Solomon has wisely remarked, that those who go to law for damages are sure to get them.

ABSURDITIES. — To fancy that you are writing poetry, when you are only making rhymes. To tell your own secrets, and believe that other people will keep them. To buy a child a drum, and punish him for beating it.

TERMS. — THE NEW ENGLAND FARMER is published every other Saturday, making a neat and handsome volume, at the close of the year, of 416 pages, at $1 a year, or five copies for $4, payable in advance. It may be neatly bound at 18¾ cents, or elegantly bound in muslin, embossed and gilt, at 25 cents a volume. As it is stereotyped, back numbers can be furnished to new subscribers.

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